[English]

Development of Need Based Human Resources

1753. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a need for development of need based human resources and institutional capabilities and research for accelerating the pace of progress in this sector;

(b) if so, whether efforts are being made to improve the food processing industry in the country;

(c) whether there is any participation of private sector in this field;

(d) the number of projects offered to private sector; and

(e) the number of projects likely to come up during 1996-97?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e). During the Eighth Plan period Ministry of Food Processing Industries have been operating many developmental Plan Schemes for the development of food processing sector. Some of the schemes include training and research in this sector.

During the first four years of Eighth Plan period, 204 food processing and training centres have been sanctioned against the target of 250 by the end of the Eighth Plan period. The assistance is available to Central Government organisations, non-Governmental organisations/voluntary-organisations, cooperatives and public sector undertakings.

Subsidised Gas

1754. SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN :
SHRI BADAL CHOUDHURY :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any difference in the rate charged for providing Natural gas to Assam and Tripura;

(b) whether industries in Assam are getting Natural gas at subsidised rate;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether same facilities are not extended to the industries in Tripura; and

(e) if so, the steps taken to provide gas at subsidised rates to Tripura?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (e). The price of natural gas is the same in Assam and Tripura. The price is Rs. 1000 per thousand cubic meters with a provision for a discount of Rs. 400 per thousand cubic meters on a case basis.

[Translation]

Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme

1755. SHRI SAT MAHAJAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the name of schemes of Kangra district forwarded to Central Government for financial assistance by the Himachal Pradesh Government under Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme;

(b) the funds allocated for the potable water scheme;

(c) the details of amount spent thereon;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the Planning Commission had sanctioned Rs. 100 lakhs additional funds as a Central assistance for 1995-96 for Kangra under water supply scheme on the request of Himachal Pradesh Government; and

(e) if so, whether this fund has been allocated and utilised by the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Under the Centrally sponsored Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP) water supply schemes for Dehra and Noorpur towns in Kangra district have been received by the Central Government.

(b) and (c). Under the AUWS Programme, schemes for Rewalsar Chowari, Dehra and Rohru towns at a total project cost of Rs. 326.10 lakhs have been sanctioned. The Central and the State Governments share the cost of the scheme in the ratio of 50:50 under the AUWS Programme. The Central Government has released Rs. 101.50 lakhs so far and as per the available information, the State Government has released Rs. 15.69 lakhs only. An expenditure of Rs. 93.77 lakhs is reported to have been incurred so far.

(d) and (e). Yes, Sir. Rs. 100 lakhs have been allocated by the Planning Commission for water supply scheme to Kangra as additional Central assistance and the State Government is reported to have incurred an expenditure of Rs. 344.55 lakhs so far on this scheme. The scheme is estimated to cost Rs. 400 lakhs and is expected to be completed during 1996-97.

[English]

National Fisheries Action committee

1756. SHRI PINAKI MISRA : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether fishermen and fish workers represented